

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A barbecue cooking device, characterized in that it comprises:

5 -an inverted frustum casing of a given height, having a base wall, an open top and a slanted side wall section extending from the base wall to the top, the slanted side wall section having an inner surface made of a material capable of reflecting radiant energy;

-a grill mountable on the open top;

10 -a cup-shaped burner with a bottom wall and a side wall section, the burner comprising:

-a combustion chamber in an upper portion thereof for burning a combustible material, thereby emitting thermal energy;

-an air chamber located beneath the combustion chamber, the air chamber having an air intake for receiving air; and

15 -a diffuser plate separating the combustion chamber and the air chamber; and

-a blower operatively connected to the air intake of the air chamber to provide forced-air to the air chamber;

20 wherein the burner is located inside the casing with said side wall section of the burner spanning the height of the casing such that most of the thermal energy emitted by the combustion chamber radiate radially towards the slanted side wall section of the casing where it is reflected towards the grill mounted on the top of the casing.

25 2. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 1, characterized in that said inverted frustum casing has an inverted pyramidal shape.

3. The barbecue cooking device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the burner has a generally tubular shape with a round bottom wall.

4. The barbecue cooking device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the burner has a generally rectangular shape with a rectangular bottom wall.

5. The barbecue cooking device according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the base wall of the casing has a given surface area and the bottom wall of the burner covers more than 50% of said surface area.

6. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 5, characterized in that the bottom wall of the burner covers more than 75% of the surface area of the base wall.

7. The barbecue cooking device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that it comprises a heat deflecting shield mountable beneath the grill on top of the burner for deflecting flames emitted from the burner.

8. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 7, characterized in that the deflecting shield is provided with slits.

9. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 8, wherein the grill has a given surface area and the barbecue is characterized in that the deflecting shield is sized to cover substantially all of said surface area of the grill, for diffusing the thermal energy reflected towards the grill.

10. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 9, characterized in that the deflecting shield has a central portion free of said slits, and a peripheral portion having a series of longitudinal slits, the central portion being located on top of the burner when the shield is mounted beneath the grill.

11. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 10, wherein the grill comprises a series of longitudinal slots, the longitudinal slits of the shield being in a staggered arrangement with respect to the longitudinal slots of the deflecting shield.

12. The barbecue cooking device according to any one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the slanted side wall section of the casing extends at an angle ranging from about 135 degrees to about 110 degrees with respect to the base wall of the casing.

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13. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 12, characterized in that said angle is 120 degrees.

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14. The barbecue cooking device according to any one of claims 1 to 13, characterized in that it comprises means for cooling the slanted wall section.

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15. The barbecue cooking device according to claim 14, characterized in that the cooling means comprises an air inlet located in a lower portion of the slanted wall section for allowing air to enter into the casing and an air outlet located in an upper portion of the slanted wall section for allowing air to exit the casing, thereby allowing a flow of air that cools the slanted wall section..

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16. The barbecue cooking apparatus according to claim 15, characterized in that the air inlet and the air outlet consist of a plurality of openings provided in the slanted side wall.